

Topical Heading

Vocational Education

Program Title

Vocational Education National Programs

CFDA # (or ED #)

84.051

Administering Office

Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE)

Who May Apply (by category)

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), Nonprofit Organizations, Other Organizations and/or Agencies

Who May Apply (specifically)

- For National Centers for Career and Technical Education (# 84.051A), consortia of eligible organizations may apply.
- For College and Career Transitions (# 84.051B), consortia that include both: (1) a national or international, nonprofit private membership organization—chiefly comprised of IHEs that offer a two-year, associate degree or certificate program—and (2) two or more IHEs that offer a two-year associate degree or certificate program.
- For State Scholars (# 84.051U), applicants include other organizations or agencies that have worked with members of the business and education communities at the state or national level, and have experience in providing technical assistance to local education agencies (LEAs), state education agencies (SEAs), secondary schools, education institutions, or nonprofit education agencies on education matters.

Current Competitions

Competitions are held on an as-needed basis.

Type of Assistance (by category)

Discretionary/Competitive Grants, Cooperative Agreements

Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2004	\$11,851,660
Fiscal Year 2005	\$11,757,184
Fiscal Year 2006	\$9,164,430

Fiscal Year 2006 Awards Information

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 0

Number of Continuation Awards: 13

Legislative Citation

Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998, Title I, Sec. 114; 20 U.S.C. 2324.

Program Regulations

EDGAR

Program Description

This program supports research, evaluation, information dissemination, and other activities aimed at improving the quality and effectiveness of vocational and technical education. The legislation specifically calls for, among other activities, the operation of one or more national center(s) for research and dissemination in career and technical education, and a national assessment of vocational and

technical education programs operated under the *Perkins Act* (see legislative citation). Current major activities by CFDA # include:

- National Centers for Career and Technical Education (NCCTE) (# 84.051A)—This program supports the establishment of a national center or centers to conduct applied research, development, dissemination, and training activities in the field of vocational education. See also <http://www.nccte.org>.
- College and Career Transitions Initiative (CCTI) (# 84.051B)—The purpose of this initiative is to strengthen the role of community and technical colleges in easing student transitions between secondary and postsecondary education. The initiative also supports improved academic performance at both the secondary and postsecondary levels. CCTI is aligned with the principles established in the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* by investing in strategies to: (1) close the achievement gap, (2) create meaningful education options that help students with diverse backgrounds and needs reach uniformly high standards, and (3) ensure that students attain these high standards at each level of their educational careers.
- State Scholars Initiative (SSI) (# 84.051U)—This initiative is designed to dramatically increase the percentage of high school students who have the solid academic foundation that is necessary to succeed in postsecondary education and in an increasingly dynamic labor market. SSI supports state-level business-education partnerships that work with school districts to encourage more students to complete a rigorous course of study.

Types of Projects

Projects include: research, development, demonstration, dissemination, identification of best methods, capacity building, technical assistance, evaluation, and assessment activities.

The NCCTE conducts research projects that include development of management systems to improve performance; and projects that provide teaching and learning, organization and finance, professional development, and research and development.

The CCTI supports demonstration partnerships for program improvement at the postsecondary level. Projects create or expand model transition strategies and career paths in five broad occupational areas: the health sciences; information technology; education and training; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and law, public safety, and security.

The SSI supports a national nonprofit organization that selects and funds state business-education partnerships that encourage high school students to enroll in rigorous courses. Projects stress the importance of completing a rigorous high school curriculum; develop incentives for students to complete rigorous course work; and work with state-level policymakers, business, and community stakeholders to help encourage students statewide to enroll in demanding courses.

Education Level (by category)

Secondary, Postsecondary, Vocational, Out-of-School Youth

Subject Index

Academic Achievement, Educational Improvement, Educational Innovation, Research, Technical Assistance, Vocational Education

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Links to Related Web Sites

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/index.html>